

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PEKING 00837 020904Z

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EA-06 ISO-00 AGR-05 AID-05 EB-07

COME-00 TRSE-00 /040 W

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R 020800Z MAY 75

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3676

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

USMISSION USUN

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 837

E.O.11652: ADS

TAGS: CH, ES, PORC

SUBJECT: CANDIDACY OF DR. AQUINO FOR FAO

STATE PASS IO FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM: ALSO FOR FAO

ROME FOR FAO

1. ON MAY 1 EL SALVADOR DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER CASTANEDA, AN OLD FRIEND OF MINE FROM THE UN, CALLED ON ME. HE IS ON A WORLD-WIDE TRIP PROMOTING DR. AQUINO'S CANDIDACY TO HEAD FAO.

2. CASTANEDA HAS BEEN TO EGYPT, SUDAN, PAKISTAN, NEPAL, INDIA, BANGLADESH, SRI LANKA, INDONESIA, THAILAND, AND PRC. HE EMPHASIZES THAT AQUINO IS ONLY CANDIDATE WHO HAS SUPPORT OF THIS WHOLE REGION. HE SAID THAT RIVAL CANDIDATE GOT IN THE RACE EARLY AND HAS SOME LUKE-WARM COMMITMENTS WHICH CASTANEDA FEELS MAY WELL BE CHANGED.

3. CASTANEDA WAS WELL RECEIVED IN PEKING MEETINGS WITH CHIAO KUAN HUA, WANG HAI-JUNG AND OTHER FONMIN OFFICIALS. LIN PING HAD HIM IN TOW AT MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS IN THE PARK. PRC IS SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING LATIN CANDIDATE.

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4. GALINDO PHOL WILL BE GOING SHORTLY TO AFRICA TO SOLICIT SUPPORT FOR AQUINO.

5. COMMENT: I AM OUT OF TOUCH WITH WHOLE FAO SCENE BUT I DO HOPE WE CAN FIND A WAY TO SUPPORT EL SALVADOR'S MAN. THEY HAVE ALWAYS SUPPORTED US AT UN AND THEY HAVE NEVER HAD A HEAD OF AN INDEPENDENT AGENCY BEFORE. AQUINO'S CREDENTIALS APPEAR IMPRESSIVE ON PAPER. FURTHER I HOPE BUFFUM WILL HAVE TIME FOR A VISIT WITH CASTANEDA WHEN HE CALLS IN WASHINGTON. HE IS A GOOD FRIEND TO US. BUSH

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